Need for Innovative Programmes to reduce the urban poverty

2533. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increase in the crime rate in urban areas is also due to urban poverty;

(b) if so, the details of urban development programmes which are being implemented presently in the country;

(c) whether there is a need to introduce some innovation programmes to further reduce the number of urban poor in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir, it may have had an indirect contributory effect on social crimes.

(b) to (e) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation implements Centrally sponsored schemes, namely, (A) "Swama Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY)" with effect from 1.12.1997 on all India basis to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or underemployed poor (i) through encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have read upto 9th standard and (ii) through provision of wage employment for construction of socially and economically useful public assets; and (B) "Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) with the objective of improving infrastructure facilities and creation of durable public assets in small and medium towns as also for promoting resource generating schemes for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to reduce migration to large towns. Detailed guidelines for implementation of the Schemes have been issued to States/UTs. In order to ensure their effective implementation and to overcome the bottlenecks/problems, if any, close monitoring is done through periodical progress reports and review meetings.